

Incels

This **BLUF** highlights what we at **The Threat Lab** are watching, listening to, reading, and thinking about. In this issue, we feature three artifacts that delve into the world of incels, or involuntary celibates, including the underlying ideology and the threat it presents.



REPORT

From the report prepared by the staff of the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC), **Hot Yoga Tallahassee: A Case Study of Misogynistic Extremism**, “The Hot Yoga Tallahassee case study demonstrates the opportunities that exist to prevent targeted violence while drawing particular focus to the risk posed by misogynistic extremism. Highlighted throughout the case study are behavioral threat assessment themes that were evident in the background of the Hot Yoga Tallahassee attacker.”

Read the report

<https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/reports/2022-03/NTAC%20Case%20Study%20-%20Hot%20Yoga%20Tallahassee.pdf>



ARTICLE

From Kaitlyn Tiffany’s article, **What Do Female Incels Really Want?**, “...femcels are the new mystery. In recent months, headlines have named 2022 “the year of the “femcel”” and heralded a coming “femcel revolution,” wherein women are “reclaiming involuntary celibacy” and asserting their right to give a name to their loneliness and alienation. This new recognition of femcels has tended to stop there. But incel had political meaning—people who identified with the term were read as reactionaries, the young, mostly white men who felt left behind as society progressed beyond its historical focus on their specific needs. The term femcel is now in widespread use, not just in Reddit forums but on every major social platform, including the Gen Z–favored TikTok, but we still don’t know what it’s for. If a femcel revolution is coming, what new world are femcels dreaming about?”

Read the article

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2022/05/femcel-meaning-female-incel-reddit/629836/>



PODCAST

From the description for the BBC Trending podcast episode, **Inside the Dark World of ‘Incels,’** “... ten people were killed in Toronto after a man drove a van into pedestrians... BBC Trending takes a closer look at this dark online subculture. We speak to incels, ex-incels, and a woman who posed as a man online to keep an eye on them. And there’s a surprising twist, as we find out what one incel did shortly after our interview.”

Listen to the podcast

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3csws6k>

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) founded **The Threat Lab** in 2018 to incorporate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. The BLUF is made possible by the support of the National Insider Threat Task Force. To be added to our distribution list, please email dodhra.ThreatLab@mail.mil.

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